completion of preliminary works, Shri Suresh Prabhuji laid the foundation. Now, at this stage of implementation, how this new question of availability of gas can arise? Why the hon. Minister. . . *(interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is enough. Let him reply.

श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: सर, इस प्रकल्प का शिलान्यास हुआ, यह सत्य है। इस प्रोजैक्ट को प्रोजैक्ट 500 मैगावाट का करने का प्रस्ताव था लेकिन सदन जानता है कि आज देश में गैस की कमी है। जब इस प्रोजैक्ट को बनाने का निर्णय किया गया तो यह 500 मैगावाट का था लेकिन ओएनजीसी से जब संपर्क किया गया तो बताया गया कि केवल 7 साल तक ही यह गैस इस प्रोजैक्ट के लिए मिल सकती है। इसलिए इस पर पुनर्विचार किया गया और 500 मैगावाट के प्रोजैक्ट को 280 मैगावाट में कनसर्ट किया गया। अब यह गैस 15 साल तक हमें मिल पाएगी। इस प्रकार 15 साल तक गैस हमें उपलब्ध हो, इसे ध्यान में रखते हुए इस प्रोजैक्ट को 500 मैगावाट से 280 मैगावाट किया गया है।

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Sir, my second supplementary is: The hon. Minister has mentioned. . . . *(Interruptions)*

श्री सभापति: आप वह मत कहिए। आप तो क्वेश्चन करिए। आपका क्वेश्चन क्या है?

SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Sir, the hon. Minister has told that the availability of gas is limited, which is not a fact. Will the hon. Minister consider the point that the ONGC is hesitating to explore the availability of further gas reserves in Tripura, raising the question that the present stock is not utilised for want of suitable projects, though there is possibility of exploring more gas reserves? Considering this, will the Government proceed to implement the scheme of 500 MW as per project?

श्री अनन्त गंगाराम गीते: सर, अगर गैस उपलब्ध होगी तो निश्चित रूप से इसकी उपलब्धता बढ़ाई जाएगी।

Killings in J & K

*570. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:†

DR. T. SUBBRAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of people belonging to minority community

consisting of women and children were massacred in Jammu and Kashmir on 24th March, 2003;

(b) if so, whether such type of incidents have been on an increase in the State for several months;

(c) whether any inquiry was conducted regarding these incidents;

(d) if so, the outcome of the inquiry;

(e) whether the Centre in consultation with the State Government has decided to improve the security arrangements in the State in collaboration with security forces to check such incidents; and

(f) if so, whether the Deputy Prime Minister has alleged Pakistan's role in increasing extremist activities in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) On March 23, 2003 late in the evening a group of terrorists wearing army uniforms killed 24 Kashmiri Pandits including 11 women and 02 children at Nadimarg in District Pulwama, J&K.

(b) The last such incident involving massacre of minorities was a suicide terrorist attack at Raghunath Temple complex, Jammu on November 24, 2002 in which 13 persons including one policeman, one CRPF jawan and two terrorist were killed while 53 persons including five security personnel sustained injuries.

(c) and (d) As a result of coordinated operations including interrogation of a subsequently arrested terrorist, Security Forces have been able to establish Pak backed LET terrorist's involvement in the Nadimarg Massacre. Cases under relevant provisions of law have been registered. As regards the incident at Raghunath Temple invetigations have revealed that the slain terrorists belonged to the LET.

(e) A Special Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (JKA), MHA to review existing macro-strategies of the security forces and intelligence agencies in J&K and to suggest appropriate strategies to be followed to counter terrorism in J&K. The Special Group has been asked to submit its report within 90 days.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri K. Natwar Singh.

In addition to diplomatic initiatives at various levels and intensive pressure on terrorists in the hinterland, the Government conjointly with the State Government, has taken a series of steps to contain cross border terrorism perpetrated by the pro-Pak terrorist outfits/Pak ISI which includes strengthening of border management to check infiltration, proactive action against terrorists gearing up the intelligence machinery; protective measures for remote and scattered populations and minorities, and action as per law against over-ground supporters of the terrorists.

The strategies tactics and dynamic deployment to counter the terrorists are constantly reviewed, refined and monitored at various levels in the State and Central Government including in the two Unified Headquarters headed by the Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir.

State Government has further informed that static guards have been established at pockets/villages inhabited by minority families and Area Domination is also being ensured in minority community pockets.

(f) It is a well known fact that terrorism in J & K is aided and abetted by Pak/Pak-ISI.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH: Sir, I would like to just point out that the maximum number of bureaucratic banalities are concentrated in such a brief answer. Having been myself in the game for a very long time, I would like just to point out that this is an absolutely deadly answer which gives nothing away. Now, I would like to ask two things. Firstly, the Special Group has been asked to submit its report within 90 days; When do these 90 days finish? Secondly, please explain what "static guards" means at paragraph seven, and at paragraph eight, "abetted by Pak/Pak-ISI." Is not the Pak-ISI the same thing? Why do you want to separate Pakistan from Pakistan-ISI? Please enlighten the House on this.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Sir, as far as the Special Group is concerned, which was constituted after the meeting of the 31st March, 2003, where the hon. Deputy Prime Minister was also present. It has started functioning and it visited Jammu recently, meeting all the people and reviewing the situation. I think after 90 days from when they started functioning, their work will be completed and the report will come before the Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Consumption of Coal by Thermal Power Plants

*571. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of coal is imported every year for consumption by thermal power plants in the country;

(b) the quantities of coal supplied by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries to the respective thermal power plants and the volume of coal imported by them during the last five years;

(c) what measures have been taken by CIL for washing of coal with a view to enhancing its purity and enabling reduction, particularly in the cost of transportation of pure coal of greater calorific value to the power generation units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) No, Sir. A small quantity of coal is being imported by some of the thermal power plants located at coastal areas due to cost consideration and for blending with indigenous coal.

(b) Year-wise despatch of coal and coal products by Coal India Limited (CIL) to thermal power plants (TPPs) and the coal imported by thermal power plants for last five years are given below:

(figures in million tonnes)

Year	Coal despatch to TPPs	Import by TPPs
1998-1999	184.17	0.61
1999-2000	195.76	1.21
2000-2001	208.46	2.41
2001-2002	216.87	3.56
2002-2003	221.21	3.17